

uncured unit having the shape imparted to it by the mold, the pallet on which the mold rests, and the compression head;

- iv) stripping the uncured unit from the mold via the open bottom of the mold by the combined, relative vertical action of the compression head and the pallet with respect to the mold, whereby, after stripping, the uncured unit rests on the pallet unsupported by the mold;
- v) transporting the uncured unit to a curing location;
- vi) curing the uncured unit at the curing location to create a cured unit;
- vii) transporting the cured unit from the curing location to a splitting location; and
- viii) splitting the cured unit transversely to form at least one finished composite masonry block;

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b) said block body comprising:

- i) a generally horizontal upper surface;
- ii) a generally horizontal lower surface having a smaller gross area than that of the upper surface;
- iii) a generally vertical front surface;
- iv) a generally vertical back surface, said front and back surfaces being separated by a distance comprising the depth of the block;
- v) a generally vertical first sidewall extending from the front surface to the rear surface, and extending from the upper surface to the lower surface, said first sidewall including a first part that extends away from the front surface at an external angle of less than ninety degrees with respect to the front surface, and a generally planar second part that lies between the sidewall first part and the back surface, and intersects the back surface at an external angle of less than 90 degrees; and
- vi) a generally vertical second sidewall opposed to the first sidewall, and extending from the front surface to the back surface, and extending from the upper surface to the lower surface, said second sidewall including a first part that extends away from the front surface at an

external angle of less than 90 degrees with respect to the front surface, and a generally planar second part that [joins] lies between the sidewall first part and the back surface, and intersects the back surface at an external angle of less than 90 degrees;

- Handwritten: *Fig 1*
- vii) said block body upper surface being formed by the pallet upon which the mold seats during the molding process, and being substantially planar, substantially solid, and substantially continuous across its whole extent from its intersections with the front surface, the back surface, and each sidewall as a result;
 - viii) said block body lower surface being formed by the compression head during the molding process, and being substantially planar as a result;
 - ix) the second parts of the block body sidewalls being formed by the corresponding vertical walls of the mold during the molding process, and being substantially solid and continuous across their whole extents as a result;
 - x) said block body back surface being formed by corresponding vertical walls of the mold during the molding process;
- c) said integral locator lip including a back surface which is an extension of the back surface of the block body, and a forwardly facing locking surface which extends below the lower surface of the block body, the depth of said locator lip being the distance between its locking surface and its back surface measured in the plane of the lower surface of the block body, and wherein the ratio of the depth of the block body to the depth of the locator lip is at least about 6:1;
- i) wherein the locking surface is formed by a corresponding surface of the compression head during the molding process.

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The [method] composite masonry block of claim 56, wherein the cured unit is split to form at least two finished composite masonry blocks.

rule 36. 36.
A composite masonry block suitable for landscape applications, comprising:

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- a) a solid and generally planar top face;
 - b) a bottom face which is generally parallel to the top face;
 - c) a rear face which is generally perpendicular to the top and bottom faces;
 - d) a front face which is generally perpendicular to the top and bottom faces, and which includes opposed portions which diverge as they extend towards the rear face of the block;
 - e) opposed solid side faces which are generally perpendicular to the top and bottom faces, each of said solid side faces extending from an opposed diverging portion of the front face to the rear face, said side faces converging as they extend towards the rear face;
 - f) a lower rear locator lip formed integrally with the bottom face of the block, and located adjacent to the rear face of the block, so that the lip is adapted to establish a uniform setback from course to course when a plurality of like blocks are laid in courses, and comprises a rear face which is an extension of the block rear face below the bottom face of the block.

Please add new claims 75-79 as follows:

- rule 36. 36.
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- 47. The block of claim 1 wherein the sidewall surfaces include one or more notches.
 - 48. The block of claim 2 wherein the sidewall surfaces include one or more notches.
 - 49. The composite masonry block of claim 28 wherein the vertical mold surfaces corresponding to the block body sidewalls comprise one or more vertical flanges,

rule 126

and the block body sidewalls include a corresponding number of vertical grooves as a consequence of the molding process.

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A composite masonry block suitable for landscape applications, comprising:

- 14*
- a) a solid and generally planar top face;
 - b) a bottom face which is generally parallel to the top face;
 - c) a rear face which is generally perpendicular to the top and bottom faces;
 - d) a front face which is generally perpendicular to the top and bottom faces, and which includes opposed portions which diverge as the extend towards the rear face of the block;
 - e) opposed solid side faces which are generally perpendicular to the top and bottom faces, each of said solid side faces being located between the front face and the rear face, and including portions which converge as they extend towards the rear face;
 - f) a lower rear locator lip formed integrally with the bottom face of the block, and located adjacent to the rear face of the block, so that the lip is adapted to establish a uniform set back from course to course when a plurality of like blocks are laid in courses, and comprises a rear face which is an extension of the block rear face below the bottom face of the block.